



ILLINOIS VALLEY CLUSTER LENTEN SERVICES

SUNDAYS AT 4 PM MEAL FOLLOWING

MAR. 9 FCC CREVE COEUR

BETH RUPE, PREACHER

MAR. 16 EUREKA CC

MASON FITCH, PREACHER

MAR. 23 GLEN OAK CC

JUDITH THOMAS, PREACHER

MAR. 30 FCC PEORIA

APRIL MCCLURE STEWART, PREACHER

APR. 6 MACKINAW CC

DWIGHT WINNETT, PREACHER

APR. 13 SUNNYLAND CC

ALEX RUTH, PREACHER



FREEDOM FOR THE OPPRESSED

March 30, 2025

4:00 pm

First Christian Church



fccpeoria.org
socials: @FCCPeoriaIL

Fourth Sunday in Lent
† indicates standing, if able

Today’s Meditation

Because love is an act of courage, not of fear, love is a commitment to others. No matter where the oppressed are found, the act of love is commitment to their cause – the cause of liberation.

-Paulo Freire

- Welcome
- Music for Meditation

How Great is Our God
- A Moment of Silence
- †Call to Worship

Leader: Jesus, who broke the chains of the oppressed,
People: empower us to release others from the bonds of injustice.
Leader: Let us be bearers of hope and agents of freedom,
People: reflecting your transformative love in our communities.
Leader: God of deliverance, guide us in the path of righteousness,
People: that we might proclaim true freedom in your name.
- †Opening Hymn

God of Grace and God of Glory

#464
- †Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together...
All: Holy and Loving Presence, You call us to be repairers of the breach, restorers of streets to live in. You ask us not only to believe but to act. We hear your call in the words of Jesus, who declared liberation for the oppressed. But may we not just hear—may we embody this call. May we be bold enough to tear down what harms and build up what heals. May we hunger not for power, but for righteousness. May our light rise in the darkness, not for our own glory, but as a beacon of hope, a reflection of your deep and abiding love. Strengthen our hands to do this holy work. Soften our hearts where they have grown cold. Guide our feet to the places where healing is needed. And remind us that we do not do this alone. This we prayer in Jesus name, who taught us to pray...Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

- Scripture Reading

Isaiah 58:6-12
This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.
- Special Music

Jesus Paid It All

Larry Weber, euphonium
arr Joseph Linn
- Sermon

Rev April McClure Stewart
Freedom for the Oppressed
- †Hymn of Response

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

words on screen
- A Time of Prayer
- Communion Hymn

These I Lay Down

#391
- The Lord’s Supper

All: Here we celebrate that all people are welcome at this table of God’s grace.
- Offering Statement
- Tithes & Offerings

If you are able, please come forward at this time to place your offering in the plate in front of the communion table.
I Offer My Life
- †Doxology

#46
- †Dedication of Offering
- †Benediction

words on screen
- †Congregational Response

O God of Justice

words on screen
- Postlude

Sing to the King